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PP RUEHAG RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK RUEHROV RUEHSR

DE RUEHLB #0199 0511033

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P 201033Z FEB 09

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4252

INFO RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE

RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3492

RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 3695

RHMFIS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 000199

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/FO, NEA/ELA, NEA/IPA

ALSO FOR IO PDAS WARLICK

P FOR DRUSSELL AND RRANGASWAMY

USUN FOR WOLFF/GERMAIN/SCHEDLBAUER

NSC FOR SHAPIRO/MCDERMOTT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/09/2019

TAGS: PREL PGOV PTER PINR UNSC MARR MOPS IS KPAL

IR, LE, SY

SUBJECT: LEBANON: MARCH 2 SHARM EL-SHEIKH CONFERENCE, GOL  
PREARING SECOND SHIPMENT OF AID

REF: A. STATE 1457

1B. BEIRUT 56

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison for reasons 1.4  
(b) and (d).

11. (SBU) DCM delivered Ref A demarche to PM Fouad Siniora's  
assistant, Rola Noureddine, on February 18. Noureddine had  
no substantive response.

12. (SBU) Per Ref B, Lebanon continues to provide assistance  
to Gaza. Ambassador Khalil Mekkawi, President of the  
Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC), told us  
February 19 that Lebanon plans to send a second shipment of  
assistance to Gaza "very soon hopefully." This second  
shipment will consist entirely of medical supplies with an  
estimated value of \$250,000 - \$300,000. The Ministry of  
Health (MOH) is preparing this shipment, which will be sent  
via Jordan and delivered to Gaza by UNRWA, Health Minister  
Advisor Rasha Hamra told us. The LPDC and the MOH are  
coordinating efforts to provide this assistance, which is  
based on requests from the Palestinian Health Ministry, both  
Mekkawi and Hamra said. This will bring to approximately  
\$450,000 - \$500,000 Lebanon's contributions out of its \$1  
million pledge in assistance for Gaza.

13. (SBU) Asked about the LPDC campaign for cash contributions  
(Ref B), Mekkawi said that a few weeks ago approximately  
\$70,000 had been raised in the LPDC account opened at the  
Central Bank of Lebanon for this purpose. The account is  
still open for contributions, he said, but none of the money  
has been transferred to Gaza yet and may be used instead to  
purchase additional in-kind assistance to Gaza over-and-above  
the \$1 million pledged by the GOL on December 30.

SISON